

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 SCI-06 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 OIC-04 NSF-04 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

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1. DRAFT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY KENYA IS FAR TOO SWEEPING TO PERMIT EVALUATION DURING LIMITED TIME REMAINING IN CURRENT ECOSOC SESSION. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD HOPE THAT KENYANS WOULD NOT PRESS FOR ADOPTION OF ANY PART OF RESOLUTION AT THIS TIME. DEPARTMENT'S PRELIMINARY COMMENTS FOLLOW:

A. US DEL SHOULD MAKE IT CRYSTAL CLEAR IN DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DELS THAT US OPPOSES CREATION OF VOLUNTARY FUND FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND, IF FUND WERE CREATED, US WOULD NOT REPORT NOT CONTRIBUTE. WE LIKEWISE WOULD NOT FAVOR A
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SECRETARIAT STUDY OF FEASIBILITY OR DESIRABILITY OF SUCH A

FUND.

B. MUCH OF ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK OUTLINED IN DRAFT RES SEEMS PREDICATED UPON EXISTENCE OF A VOLUNTARY FUND FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. AS WE OPPOSE FUND, WE WOULD ALSO OPPOSE CREATION OF A NEW ORGANIZATION WITH ELECTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GOVERNING COUNCIL, ETC.

C. PROPOSAL FOR MERGING R&T DIVISION AND OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO CREATE A SECRETARIAT OFFICE WITH BROAD

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COORDINATION OF UN SCIENCE ACTIVITIES IS AN INTRIGUING IDEA WHICH DESERVES CONSIDERATION. ALTHOUGH US NOT PREPARED TO SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL WITHOUT MORE THOROUGH EVALUATION, WE BELIEVE IT APPROPRIATE FOR GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE THIS PROPOSAL UNDER ADVISEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION AT A FUTURE ECOSOC SESSION.

AT THIS TIME, PROPOSAL MAY BE PREMATURE. DEPT IS PREPARING REPLY TO A SYG NOTE REQUESTING OUR VIEWS ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT. COMBINING THESE TWO COMMITTEES, AS HAS BEEN PROPOSED, WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH MERGING THE TWO PARENT UN OFFICES. GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSES TO THE SYG NOTE MAY BE INDICATIVE OF THE SYMPATHY AMONG MEMBERS FOR CLOSER TIES BETWEEN THE R&T DIVISION AND THE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND, PERHAPS, A USEFUL FIRST STEP TOWARD DETERMINING THE FUTURE RELATIONSHIP OF THE TWO OFFICES.

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